

## Novitsky lecture kicks off deaf heritage at MSSD

MSSD kicked off its month-long celebration of deaf people's heritage on March 13 with "Deaf Mosaic" host Mary Lou Novitsky speaking to a crowd of students, faculty, and staff in the school's auditorium. Novitsky shared stories of her experiences as a deaf person competing in a hearing world.

"You can be whatever you want," she told the students. Novitsky later invited and answered student questions.

MSSD students from Janet Weinstock's English class opened the event with ASL poetry they created during their recent study of the art form.

MSSD Principal Cynthia Bailes also spoke at the assembly. Deaf people's lives have changed for the better in three major areas, she said: job opportunities, communication access, and recognition of and pride in deaf culture and American Sign Language.

"You have options that in my time we never thought about," she told the students.

The MSSD celebration continues this week with a Deaf Heritage Show on March 28 from 3 to 4 p.m. in the MSSD Auditorium.

In addition, the following lunchtime forums will be held in the MSSD Cafeteria from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.: March 27, Jeff Bravin, "Bike Across America"; and March 29, Ricky Suiter, "World Games for the Deaf 1989 in New Zealand."

For more information about MSSD's deaf heritage celebration, call Ricky Suiter at x5466 or Janet Weinstock at x5419.



President King Jordan greets people attending the Americans with Disabilities Act rally at the Capitol March 12, including Dr. Robert Davila (left), assistant secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services. Jordan was one of the featured speakers.

## Computer problems? Try INFO-VAX

Do you sometimes feel that you are the victim of 'user unfriendliness' by your computer? If so, there is now a network for computer users to tap into and help each other out.

INFO-VAX, the brainchild of Kevin Cole, an applications programmer in Gallaudet's Center for Assessment and Demographic Studies, has proven a tremendous help for campus computer users who are having technical problems.

Cole said that in the past, a good part of his day was tied up with campus computer users who would call him seeking help. "I decided that there had to be a better way," he said.

He discovered a computer conferencing system that existed in the software of the University's mainframe computer but was not being used,

where files could be set up to which people could read and contribute. Cole explained that the conferencing system is like E-Mail except that it can be dispatched to many people simultaneously instead of only to one person at a time.

More important, perhaps, is that INFO-VAX is also a confidence builder. "I think sometimes people are afraid to go to Computer Services [with questions] because they think that they are experts and people feel intimidated by that," said Cole. "They'd rather see that other people are struggling with the same problems they are. Users can help users."

Cole initially created files within the conferencing system on topics that he thought would be of interest to a majority of computer users, such as how to send international mail, Gallaudet's policy on public software, and "Editor," which gives directions on basic computer functions such as how to save, block, and move copy. People can also create their own files and add them to the system.

Although INFO-VAX has been in place for five years, it has only been widely used since last semester. Cole feels that people became more aware of it through a conferencing system for students set up by User Services. Since then, "the feedback I've gotten is very gratifying," said Cole.

A number of other conferencing systems have also been created at Gallaudet. The latest one is INFO-MAC, for Macintosh computer users. INFO-MAC was set up by Nancy Creighton, special assistant for the English Natural Form Instruction (ENFI) project in the English Department, and allows users to share problems, solutions, and news concerning the Macintosh.

continued on page 2

## Senate revises communication guidelines again

Gallaudet's Faculty Senate rescinded proposed changes to the communication policy in the Faculty Guidelines at its March 19 meeting and adopted recommended changes that would give greater emphasis to visual modes of communication, such as ASL.

The University Faculty will take final action on the senate's latest recommendation at an April 30 meeting.

Two months ago, the senate supported changes to the existing guidelines that would replace the current method of simultaneous communication (SimCom)—speaking English while simultaneously signing—with sign supported English, defined as English-based communication with signs drawn from the ASL lexicon, but used in English word order.

The January changes also supported other methods of communication, including ASL—where students' needs warrant it and signers' skills permit—to afford more flexibility.

On closer reflection, however, the senate felt that even those proposed changes gave more emphasis to speech or lip movement than more visual methods of communicating and agreed to accept the new policy, which was drafted by Dr. Larry Stewart, an associate professor of psychology.

Stewart's policy takes out the statement in the policy accepted in January that "in most circumstances, sign-supported English will be the norm." Both the policy approved in January and the one presented by Stewart at the March 19 meeting state, "The University Faculty encourages the learning and the clear use of English as well as visually-oriented communication languages and modalities, including American Sign Language and sign supported English, in all aspects of University life to meet the needs of the individuals we serve."

The newest policy, Stewart said, is "more inclusive and not exclusive" and better reflects the University's commitment to open communication.

The Faculty Senate made two revisions to Stewart's policy before approving it, the primary one being to include the option of faculty and students being able to use voice, if they so desire. Stewart did not make specific reference to the use of voice or lip movement in the policy, but in response to concerns by some senate members that some deaf students are more comfortable using voice, he stated that it was not his intent to exclude the use of voice.

Senate Chairman William Marshall called Stewart's policy "more inclusive and more in line with the needs of the students." He added that the policy was also "more in line with the prevailing sentiments of the entire faculty."



Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) greets GUIDE program participants Mary Malzkahn, associate professor of government, and Fat Lam, associate professor of mathematics, on March 16. GUIDE's 20 members spent the day on Capitol Hill learning about the Americans with Disabilities Act from various members of Congress and other officials.



## You and Your Job

### Reemployed annuitants

Many faculty and staff who retire from the University under the CSRS or FERS systems are interested in returning to Gallaudet to work, usually on a part-time basis. There are several regulations that the University must follow when employing retirees.

If a retiree returns to work on a full-time regular or extended temporary status, the individual is considered reinstated, and his or her annuity stops when the employee begins receiving a salary.

When a retiree is hired to work either part time or for a short period of time, the retiree is considered a *reemployed annuitant*. This means that the employee will continue to receive an annuity while employed, but any salary paid by Gallaudet will be reduced by the amount of the annuity. For example, if a retiree is offered a position paying \$2,000 per month, and the retiree's annuity is \$1,000 per month, the retiree will receive \$1,000 in salary from Gallaudet, and the remaining \$1,000 will be reimbursed to the retirement system.

Simply put, the retiree may receive no more than the amount the position pays, regardless of the source. The only exception is if the individual is hired on a fee basis as a contractor for a single special transaction, in which case the annuity is not deducted. There are specific guidelines and laws governing the employment of a contractor, which will be described in a later issue of *On The Green*.

Unfortunately, these are federal regulations over which Gallaudet has no control. It may be of interest to note that last year Gallaudet requested an interpretation of the regulations that would recognize that the University is not a federal agency, and would enable Gallaudet retirees to work if non-federal funding was used.

While the Office of Personnel Management was sympathetic, the response was not favorable. Gallaudet University is specifically named in the retirement regulations, and any appointment made by Gallaudet, paid through appropriated funds or otherwise, is subject to the reemployed annuitant regulations.



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Communication Arts instructor Kathy Jankowski (left) speaks on "Empowering Deaf People by Preserving Our Culture" and Sign Communication Associate Professor Will Madsen discusses "Gestuno: International Sign Communication." The recent Department of Sign Communication lectures helped celebrate the School of Communication's tenth anniversary.



## INFO-VAX gains popularity here

continued from page 1

Cole said that although the VAX system is getting increased use here, its potential has not been realized. "People still don't know that [for example] they can send a 40-page document to Tel Aviv in 15 minutes and it costs them nothing," he said.

Cole said that for deaf people in particular, the VAX is "the great equalizer." . . . You hear so much about equal access. If the deaf community wants to reach out and touch someone, this is the way to go."

Here's how new users can hook up with INFO-VAX. When logged in on the VAX system on GALLUA, type

the following, starting at the \$ prompt:

Note (return)  
Add Entry Menu (return)  
Update (return)  
Open Menu (return)  
Dir (return)  
13 (return)  
Select (return)  
Open INFO-VAX (return)

These steps will get you into INFO-VAX and also will add INFO-VAX to your notebook.

When wishing to use INFO-VAX again, simply type at the \$ prompt:  
Notes (return)  
Open INFO-VAX (return)  
Show key/full (return—to get an index of topics listed on the network).

## Announcements

Gallaudet's Noontime Ballroom Dancers will hold a dance in the Dance Studio on Friday, April 6, from 5-8 p.m. The first hour will be a free lesson on the Mambo and Electric Slide. Anyone interested in ballroom dance is welcome to come. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Sue Gill, x5591, or John Schuchman, x5474.

The Student Health Service announces the following new hours for spring semester: Monday through Friday—8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for appointments and 5 p.m. to midnight for emergencies; Saturday—8 a.m. to noon for appointments and noon to 4 p.m. for emergencies; and Sundays—8 a.m. to noon for emergencies. The clinic will be closed at all other times.

The Department of TV, Film, and Photography will open its 5th Annual Gallaudet Student Photography Show with a reception and announcement of winners in Chapel Hall on April 4 from 4-6 p.m. The show, on display through April 25, is part of the School of Communication's 10th anniversary celebration.

The Management Institute is sponsoring two upcoming seminars. "Management Skills for the New or Prospective Manager," with instructor Gerald Nelson, will be held on April 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Strategies for Effective Supervision," with instructor Ernest Hairston, will be held April 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost of each seminar is \$125, including lunch. For more information, call x5900 (TDD).

The notary commission has expired for Kayt Lewis, coordinator of Employee Development and Relations. Notary commissions are being applied for by Elaine Vance, benefits/employment specialist, and Betty Williams, personnel assistant.

The Development Office has a telex machine and related equipment that it will donate to any department interested in using it. Contact Scott Strzelec, x5410.

Art and Photography Services now has only one photographer, which will limit the number of requests that can be granted for photographic services. Departments are asked to request the photographer only for exceptionally important events, and some requests may have to be refused if the photographer is not available. Anyone interested in having photographs in *On the Green* should contact the newspaper staff, x5671, not the photographer.

### Reps will discuss tax sheltered annuity

Gallaudet employees have the option of directing a portion of their salaries, before taxes, to a number of tax sheltered annuity and investment plans for retirement benefits.

Representatives from nine different plans will answer questions on Monday, April 2, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Ely Center Multipurpose Room.

Even if employees are not interested in a retirement fund now, they are invited to drop by and get information helpful to plan for the future.

## Merlin and Arthur come to campus

For the sixteenth consecutive year, the Theatre Arts Department will offer a play for children (and adults). "Merlin's Tale of Arthur's Magic Sword," written by Keith Engar and directed by Gilbert Eastman, will be performed April 6 at 7:30 p.m. and April 7 at 2 and 7:30 p.m. in Elstad Auditorium.

In this new version of a favorite classic, an eccentric Merlin matches wit and magic with Arthur's formidable sister, Morgan le Fay, in an epic battle for the kingdom. Suspense and adventure are in store for the audience as Merlin hides Arthur from Morgan's reach until Morgan herself leads Arthur to the magic sword that makes him king.

Tickets are \$3 for students, children, and sign language students, and \$4 for all others. Full-time Gallaudet students are free with I.D. Reservations can be made by calling x5500 (V) or x5502 (TDD) or by sending a check payable to Gallaudet Theatre, and a stamped, self-addressed envelope, to Box Office Manager, Box 2303. Box office hours are April 2-5 from 2-5 p.m., April 6 from 2-7:30 p.m., and April 7 from noon to 7:30 p.m.

## Classified Ads

**WANTED:** Nonsmoker to share 3-BR, 2-bath condo w/patio in Arlington, Va.; pool, tennis, basketball, softball park/picnic area; walk to exercise center, P.O., library, shopping, restaurants; 5-min. drive to Natl. Airport; 10-15 min. drive to Kendall Green; bus at corner goes directly to Pentagon Metro; avail. May, \$325/mo. plus 1/3 util. Call Del, x5068, or 998-0470 (TDD) evens.

**FOR SALE:** 3 Ameri-way XT tires, all season, P205/65R15 M+S, \$50/each or \$100/for all 3; 2 Traction X+C steel belted radial snow tires w/rims, P205/75R15, \$75/each or \$100/for 2. Call Sandra, 794-9410 (V/TDD).

**FOR RENT:** Beach condo at bay side across from Ocean City Sheraton Hotel, Ocean City, Md.; 500 steps from beach; sleeps 6; amenities inc. TV w/decoder, microwave, pool; renting at 1987 rates. Call Ron, x5680 (TDD) or 434-6409 (V/TDD).

**WANTED:** Mature nonsmoking professional to rent BR, family room, and 1/2 bath in basement of house in Riverdale, Md.; easy access to shopping, 20-min. drive to Kendall Green, \$275/mo. plus 1/3 util. Call Al, x5167, or 577-1027 (TDD) evens.

**WANTED:** Ride to and from Kendall Green from Lanham/Greenbelt, Md., for 2 people, leave Kendall Green after 5 p.m., will pay up to \$3/day or \$15/wk. Call Amy, x5373, or 552-3624 (V/TDD).

**LOST:** Metal-framed bifocal eyeglasses in hard brown fabric-covered case w/velcro fastener. If found, please call the President's Office, x5005.

**FOR SALE:** 1984 Peugeot 505-STI, loaded, \$7,000/BO. Call 731-8780 (TDD) after 8 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** 2-piece American Tourister luggage set, 22x14, 27x20, med. tan, \$100; Krups juice extractor, \$75. Call Maral at x5340 (V/TDD).

**FOR SALE:** Vacuum cleaner, \$12; 3 chairs, \$3.50/each. Contact John Mulhol-land, P.O. Box 1969.

## Job Openings

Some of the advertised positions may already be filled. The list below includes only new staff and faculty openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 or x5359 (TDD).

MANAGING EDITOR: *American Annals of the Deaf*